

Operating
expenses.

allow such reasonable use of public buildings for holding examinations and hearings by such commission as may be necessary. The municipality shall also pay all necessary expenses of said civil service commission incident to its operation; *provided*, no such expense shall be incurred by the commission unless the same shall have been approved in advance by the governing body of the city.

Payment of
Secretary's
Compensation.

SEC. 13. That the secretary of the civil service commission shall be paid out of the general funds of the city.

Financial powers
retained by
governing body
of City.

SEC. 14. That nothing in this Act contained shall be so construed as to deprive the governing body of such municipality of its control over the finances of such city. The salaries of all officers or members of both departments shall be fixed by the governing body of said city.

Status of
present members
of Police and
Fire
Departments.

SEC. 15. That all members of the fire department and police department of said municipality at the time of the ratification of this Act shall be continued in such employment without being required to take the examinations required of applicants for such positions hereafter under this Act, subject, however, to removal and discharge by the civil service commission as herein provided.

Reinstatement of
members of
departments
called into
military service.

SEC. 16. That any member of the police or fire departments of such municipalities, in the event of his having been drafted, volunteered, enlisted, conscripted, or in any manner called to service under the National Defense Act, or any other Act of Congress shall retain during the time of such service all rights of seniority and shall, upon his honorable discharge from such service, be immediately reinstated to his former position in said fire department or police department. *Provided, however*, that his physical condition has not been impaired.

Ch. 226,
Private Laws,
1923, and other
conflicting laws
repealed.

SEC. 17. That all laws or clauses of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, and, upon the appointment and qualification of the members of the civil service commission, as herein provided for, Chapter two hundred and twenty-six of the Private Laws of North Carolina, Session one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, and acts amendatory thereof, shall be and the same are hereby repealed and the Civil Service Commissioners of the City of Wilmington provided for and appointed under the provisions of said Chapter two hundred and twenty-six, Private Laws of North Carolina, Session one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, and acts amendatory thereof, shall be and are hereby removed from office and the offices now held by them be and the same are hereby vacated and abolished.

Status of
Civil Service
Commissioners,
appointed
under 1923
Act.

Partial
invalidity
section.

SEC. 18. That if any section, clause or phrase of this Act shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 19. That this Act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 10th day of March, 1941.